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BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

333 Commerce Street
Suite 2101
Nashville, TN 37201-3300

joelle.phillips@bellsouth.com

2003 MAY 16 PM 1:50

Joelle J. Phillips
Attorney

May 16, 2003

TBA DOCKET ROOM

615 214 6311
Fax 615 214 7406

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Hon. Sara Kyle, Chairman
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37238

Re: *Generic Docket Addressing Rural Universal Service*
Docket No. 00-00523

Dear Chairman Kyle:

Enclosed are the original and fourteen copies of a joint Status Report to Hearing Officer in connection with settlement negotiations regarding transit traffic issues. Copies of the enclosed are being provided to counsel of record.

Cordially,

Joelle Phillips

JJP:ch

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
Nashville, Tennessee

In Re: *Generic Docket Addressing Rural Universal Service*

Docket No. 00-00523

STATUS REPORT TO HEARING OFFICER

BellSouth and the Tennessee Rural Independent Coalition jointly file this status report as directed by the Hearing Officer's May 5, 2003 *Order*.

On May 12, 2003, BellSouth and the ICOs notified CMRS providers of the opportunity to meet to discuss issues regarding the termination of CMRS traffic with the ICOs and BellSouth. To facilitate these meetings, BellSouth and the ICOs will host a conference call on Monday May 19, at 8:30 a.m. CDT to discuss arrangements for meetings to be conducted during the week of June 2.

BellSouth and the ICOs are optimistic about the potential for resolution of issues through this process and are encouraged by the progress made in other BellSouth states on similar issues.

Respectfully submitted,

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

By: 

Guy M. Hicks

Joelle J. Phillips

333 Commerce Street, Suite 2101

Nashville, TN 37201-3300

615/214-6301

TENNESSEE RURAL INDEPENDENT
COALITION

By: Steve Kraskin by J. Phillips
Steve Kraskin *with permission*
Kraskin, Lesse & Cosson, LLP
2120 L. Street, NW, Suite 520
Washington, DC 20037

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on May 16, 2003, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the parties of record, via the method indicated:

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Russ Minton, Esquire
Citizens Communications
3 High Ridge Park
Stamford, CT 06905

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Charles B. Welch, Esquire
Farris, Mathews, et al.
618 Church St., #300
Nashville, TN 37219

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Mr. David Espinoza
Millington Telephone Company
4880 Navy Road
Millington, TN 38053

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Jon E. Hastings, Esquire
Boult, Cummings, et al.
P. O. Box 198062
Nashville, TN 37219-8062

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Henry Walker, Esquire
Boult, Cummings, et al.
P. O. Box 198062
Nashville, TN 37219-8062

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

James Wright, Esq.
United Telephone - Southeast
14111 Capitol Blvd.
Wake Forest, NC 27587

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Dan Elrod, Esquire
Miller & Martin
150 4th Avenue, #1200
Nashville, TN 37219

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

James Lamoureux, Esquire
AT&T
1200 Peachtree St., NE
Atlanta, GA 30309

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Donald L. Scholes, Esquire
Branstetter, Kilgore, et al.
227 Second Ave., N
Nashville, TN 37219

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Timothy Phillips, Esquire
Office of Tennessee Attorney General
P. O. Box 20207
Nashville, TN 37202

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

James R. Kelley, Esquire
Neal & Harwell, PLC
2000 First Union Tower
150 Fourth Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37219-2498

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Stephen G. Kraskin, Esquire
Kraskin, Lesse & Cosson, LLP
2120 L Street NW, Suite 520
Washington, D.C. 20037

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

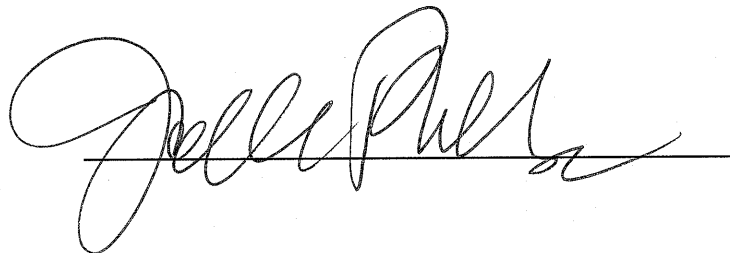
J. Gray Sasser, Esquire
Miller & Martin LLP
150 Fourth Ave., N., #1200
Nashville, TN 37219-2433

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Julie Corsig, Esquire
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
One Embarcadero Center, #600
San Francisco, CA 39111-3611

☐ Hand
☒ Mail
☐ Facsimile
☐ Overnight

Beth K. Fujimoto, Esquire
AT&T Wireless Services, Inc.
7277 164th Ave., NE
Redmond, WA 90852

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Julie Corsig", is written over a horizontal line.